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ANOTHER OLSEN

Elizabeth Olsen mesmerizes in a new, chilling drama

LIFE&ARTS PAGE 11



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Friday, November 4, 2011

WEEKEND

FRIDAY

Social drinkers needed for study

If you are between the ages of 21-25, you can get paid up to \$65 to participate in a study about alcohol and social behavior at SEA 2.302. Complete the screening for the study at www.surveymonkey.com/Alcohol_Research. If you need more information contact Patrick D Quinn at alcoholhealthstudy@gmail.com or 512-471-8993.

Last performance of '12 Angry Men'

See Foot in the Door Theatre's gender-blind performance of this classic play tonight at ART 1.102 from 8-10 p.m. Admission is \$5 at the door.

Survival strategies for international students

International students are invited to attend a workshop titled Survival Strategies for International Students. This week's topic is Maintaining Relationships in Home Country and Making New Friends. The workshop will be held from 2:15 - 3:30 PM in SSB G1.106.

Tour prowls campus for stories and lore

The Moonlight Prowl is a nighttime campus tour packed with anecdotes of student life, UT history and all sorts of university lore. Register at bit.ly/moonlight_prowl

Today in history

In 2008

Barack Obama becomes the first African-American to be elected President of the United States



Quote to note

We want to raise awareness about this vast crackdown on human rights.

— Saif Kazim,
Society for Islamic Awareness

NEWS PAGE 5

GLBT organization gets corporate support



Amanda Martin | Daily Texan Staff

Business sophomore Ezequiel Calderon Jr. is the president of the GLBTQA Business Association at UT. The organization strives to make business environments more accepting of GLBTQA individuals by changing the stereotype that businesspeople are only heterosexual males.

By Allie Kolečta
Daily Texan Staff

More rainbow ties have been popping up around McCombs since an organization for GLBT

business students was revived last semester.

The original GLBTQA Business Student Association was founded in 2007, after a group of students in the McCombs School of Business

were offered financial backing by the consulting firm Accenture, but the club died out because of a lack of interest, said president Ezequiel Calderon Jr. The club is open to students of any sexual orientation

from any college at UT and currently has about 20 official members, he said.

"Our purpose is to provide

LGBT continues on PAGE 2

University, Google offer email services to all alumni

By Jody Serrano
Daily Texan Staff



The University will now offer the UT Mail service to its more than 450,000 alumni free of charge, President William Powers Jr. announced on Wednesday.

The University launched UT Mail, powered by Google, last Spring as a life-long email replacement for UT Webmail and the new service has more than 35,000 current student users. Powers said some of the benefits of UT Mail include showing off UT pride, more storage space and better privacy for users.

John Lovelace, management coordinator for Information Technology Services, said UT Mail was mainly intended to be a service for current students, but there were always plans to make it available for alumni.

"The opportunity existed to provide the service and it was extended," Lovelace said. "In my opinion, the biggest benefit is that it's a UT branded account and it's

MAIL continues on PAGE 2

Students to switch accounts on first Bank Transfer Day

By Aleksander Chan
Daily Texan Staff

UT students will be participating in Bank Transfer Day on Saturday, where they will close their accounts at commercial banks and open new ones at local credit unions.

While Bank Transfer Day is not officially affiliated with Occupy Wall Street, its goal has garnered support from the movement and the protesters in its satellite occupancies.

The planned event comes after commercial banks announced new and increased service fees for their customers. Kristen Christian, a Los Angeles-based art gallery owner, created the Bank Transfer Day event on Facebook in response to imposed fees and poor customer service from Bank of America.

Credit unions, such as the University Federal Credit Union, are usually smaller and locally based. Commercial banks, such as the Bank of America, are financial corporations with branches across the world.

Bank of America announced plans in September to start charging customers \$5 a month when they use debit cards to make a pur-

chase. Within days, Citi Bank raised the monthly maintenance fee on its mid-level checking account to \$15 a month from \$7.50 a month and upped the required minimum balance of linked accounts from \$6,000 to \$15,000.

After a month of public outcry over the new fee, Bank of America dropped proposed plans to charge debit usage fees Tuesday.

These debit fees are in response to legislation passed earlier this year that imposed a federal cap on debit card "swipe fees," or the fees charged to retailers by major banks every time a customer pays with a debit card. The legislation capped those fees to 21 cents per transaction from a previous average of 44 cents.

Last year, congressional legislation also required banks to give customers the option to have transactions declined instead of being charged overdraft fees.

To recoup those lost revenue streams, the Wall Street Journal predicted earlier this year, banks would start charging for services.

BANK continues on PAGE 2

Trail renamed, honors former Austin mayor

By Megan Strickland
Daily Texan Staff

Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail was officially renamed Thursday to Roy and Ann Butler Hike and Bike Trail, after former Austin mayor and UT alumnus Roy Butler and his wife Ann.

The couple played a pivotal role during Butler's two terms as mayor from 1971 to 1975 in establishing the Town Lake Beautification Committee with former first lady Lady Bird Johnson, cleaning up the lake and laying the groundwork for the 10.2-mile trail that now encircles the reservoir, said Matt Curtis, spokesman for mayor Lee Leffingwell.

"The renaming will be a real compliment to Lady Bird Lake," Curtis said. "Ann worked the most along with Lady Bird to clean up the lake and established the park."

Luci Baines Johnson Turpin, daughter of former president Lyndon Baines Johnson and Lady Bird Johnson, told the council she believes her mother would have supported the measure to rename the trail.

"I will not dare put words in my mother's mouth now, nor did I in her lifetime, but I have no doubt whatsoever that she would be the first person leading the parade saying the trail needs to be named after Roy and Ann, ought to be named

after Roy and Ann Butler, because it is the right thing to do," Turpin said.

Curtis added that renaming the trail will not lead to additional costs to the city.

"Town Lake signage is minimal already," Curtis said. "As the old signage wears out we will replace it with signage with the Butlers' names."

Susan Rankin, director of The Trail Foundation, an organization that advocates for trail improvement at Lady Bird Lake, said Austin would not be what it is today without the Butlers' work.

"Ann and Roy working with Lady Bird had the vision and

BIKE continues on PAGE 2



Batli Joselevitz | Daily Texan Staff

Two female joggers run at the newly renamed Roy and Ann Butler Hike and Bike Trail overlooking Lady Bird Johnson Lake Thursday evening, renamed in honor of former Austin mayor Roy Butler.

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BANK continues from PAGE 1

UT's own Occupy satellite will be participating in Bank Transfer Day. Headed by rhetoric and writing assistant instructor Trevor Hoag, the group consisting of 35 Facebook-confirmed participants will be walking down Guadalupe Street to the Bank of America, Wells Fargo and Chase branches to close their accounts Saturday morning.

Hoag said he transferred to the University Federal Credit Union, which is based in Austin, two weeks ago after learning that they offered the comparable services to what he was receiving at Chase. He also said that UFCU was the more ethical banking option for himself.

"Credit unions weren't complicit in the bailout and they weren't complicit in the predatory lending," Hoag said.

The past month has seen bank transfers similar to Hoag's. According to a poll conducted by Inde-

pendent Community Bankers of America, 60 percent of responding independent banks saw an increase in new account openings.

That movement of consumers is happening in Austin as well.

UFCU spokeswoman Sheila Wojcik said at the three branches in the central Austin area, the number of new accounts opened in October was twice their original projection.

"People directly said in many instances that they were transferring from a big national bank like Bank of America," Wojcik said. "We have seen an impact."

Senior finance lecturer Regina Hughes said the primary difference between credit unions and commercial banks is the ownership.

Hughes said commercial banks, like Bank of America and Wells Fargo, are for-profit entities owned by shareholders. Credit unions are controlled by its members, who di-

rectly make policies for other members and are not necessarily looking to make a huge profit. They also do not provide the same variety of services, such as types of investments, offered by major commercial banks. Commercial banks, she said, are corporations that invite people to become customers, but their goals can be different and separate from those customers.

The services offered by credit unions are enough for architectural engineering and philosophy sophomore Kathleen Hetrick, who said she will be participating in Bank Transfer Day.

"This doesn't have anything to do with capitalism. It has to do with companies not functioning right and stealing from people. It's a morality issue almost," Hetrick said. "I can't really do too much about the bank structure itself, but I can take my money out of their bank."

LGBT continues from PAGE 1

GLBTQA McCombs students with business opportunities through corporate interaction and community building events like AIDS Walk Austin," Calderon said. "It's growing. It's crazy how much companies want to support the organization."

Because of a lack of GLBT business organizations in Texas schools, companies are more inclined to support GBSA, Calderon said. UT is the only school in Texas with a GLBT organization in its business school, he said.

The group recently attended a conference in Dallas called Out and Equal, where Google, IBM and Accenture expressed interest in getting involved with the group, Calderon said. Google will host a business gala for GBSA in the UTC on Nov. 15.

Current financial backers are Ernst & Young, KPMG and Accen-

ture, he said.

"We've had a couple of members where their straight friends brought them to the meeting because they were afraid, they hadn't really been out," he said. "We're trying to bring them in and make them aware that it's important to embrace every dimension of diversity."

Business freshman Andrew Curtis said GBSA gave him a niche when he started

his freshman year this fall. In the largely conservative business industry, GBSA provides more representation for members of the GLBT community, Curtis said.

"Don't be discouraged to join because you're not gay or you're not a business major," he said. "If you're an ally and an engineering major, you're absolutely welcome. If you have any interest at all, do it. It's a great organization."

GBSA helps its members learn to use their identity to their advantage in the workplace so that they can be themselves, said accounting sophomore Amanda Ritter. She helped re-found the organization with Calderon.

"It's really just about networking," Ritter said. "Some people might perceive it as us trying to draw attention to ourselves but we really just want to stand up for ourselves. We want to be just like any other person in the workplace."

BIKE continues from PAGE 1

shaped the vision of the trail that we have today," Rankin said. "I think we all know that the trail really is the gem in the heart of Austin."

Christina Toth said she enjoys walking the trail, but doesn't think a name change will change her appreciation for it.

"I don't think the name will change the way I feel about it much. It's a nice trail. I'm just glad we have it."

— Christina Toth, Radio-Television-Film Junior

City council decided to rename the trail in a five-in-favor, two-against vote that will bypass the customary 90-day public comment period for name changes.

City council members Kathie Tovo and Laura Morrison both praised the Butlers during the meeting but voted against the renaming measure because it waived the customary 90-day public comment period.

"I feel it is so important that we have a public dialogue about this, that I will not be able to support this motion," Morrison said.

Radio-television-film junior

"I don't even know the name of it honestly," Toth said. "I usually use Lake Austin. I don't think the name will change the way I feel about it much. It's a nice trail. I'm just glad we have it."

Simona Tever, 22, of New York City, said she enjoyed visiting the trail Wednesday during her Austin visit but didn't know its name. She did however know that Lady Bird Lake was the official name of the reservoir.

"It's Lady Bird Lake," Tever said. "That's what was on the map."

MAIL continues from PAGE 1

a very desirable email address."

Lovelace said that in the past UT students would lose their UT email address a couple of months after they graduated. He said about 15,000 alumni have now signed up for a UT Mail account. Alumni can sign up for an email account by using their old UT EID or the email on file with the University. If alumni don't remember their UT EID or are not registered, they go through a simple verification process before they can sign up for an alumni account.

Advertising professor John Murphy said the UT brand is hugely powerful, especially in athletics and the sale of UT-branded merchandise, partly because of the huge alumni base prominent both in the state and nationwide.

"The biggest benefit I see for UT is connecting with alumni and generating goodwill among this important public," Murphy said. "This connection could potentially pay off in gifts in the future, active support for issues that UT considers to be important and in many other ways

that are not obvious now."

Google spokesman Tim Drinan said the company is thrilled UT has taken advantage of Google Apps for Education, a free package of email and collaborative applications designed specifically for educational institutions that offers free accounts to students and alumni. Customers that choose to switch to UT Mail have 25 gigabytes of storage, can opt to turn off advertisements and have the Google guarantee that the site will be available 99.9 percent of the time.

Bill McCausland, chief operating officer for Texas Exes, said the organization was thrilled to be working with UT to make alumni more aware about UT Mail. McCausland said before UT Mail, Texas Exes offered a forwarding service with an @utexas.net address because of high demand.

McCausland said he and his daughter have signed up for a UT Mail account.

"I think it's a great move starting with the students," McCausland said. "They will have an address they can take with them. This was driven by the need for students and we're really pleased this can be made available to alumni."

THE DAILY TEXAN

This newspaper was printed with pride by The Daily Texan and Texas Student Media.

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Web Staff..... Charity Lee, Hayley Fick, Bicente Gutierrez

Advertising

(512) 471-1865
advertise@texasstudentmedia.com

Director of Advertising & Business..... Jalah Goette
Business Manager..... Lori Hamilton
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11/4/11

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Monday.....	Wednesday, 12 p.m.	Thursday.....	Monday, 12 p.m.
Tuesday.....	Thursday, 12 p.m.	Friday.....	Tuesday, 12 p.m.
Wednesday.....	Friday, 12 p.m.		

Classified Word Ads: 11 a.m. (Last Business Day Prior to Publication)

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CONTACT US

Main Telephone:
(512) 471-4591

Editor:
Viviana Aldous
(512) 232-2212
editor@dailytexanonline.com

Managing Editor:
Lena Price
(512) 232-2217
managingeditor@dailytexanonline.com

News Office:
(512) 232-2207
news@dailytexanonline.com

Multimedia Office:
(512) 471-7835
dailytexanmultimedia@gmail.com

Sports Office:
(512) 232-2210
sports@dailytexanonline.com

Life & Arts Office:
(512) 232-2209
dailytexan@gmail.com

Photo Office:
(512) 471-8618
photo@dailytexanonline.com

Comics Office:
(512) 232-4386
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Retail Advertising:
(512) 471-1865
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TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High
77



Low
63

HOLY HYPERLINK!!!!

FOR THE RECORD

Due to a reporting error, Monday's news story about the Whitis Court Haunted House should have said 274 people attended the event. The haunted house was sponsored by the Whitis Court Residence Hall Council and the University Residence Hall Association. The event coincided with Sex Week, but the event was directed toward developing residents' leadership.

NEWS BRIEFLY

Greek PM in opposition's eye after recent referendum fiasco

ATHENS, Greece — Greece's prime minister abandons his explosive plan to put a European rescue deal to a popular vote and opens emergency talks with his opponents, who demand his resignation but appear suddenly ready to swallow austerity to avoid a chaotic default.

The dramatic developments overshadow a summit of world leaders, and push the Italian government closer toward collapse.

The respected conservative daily Kathimerini described him Thursday as the "fatal prime minister."

"The prime minister has lost credibility in Greece and abroad," the newspaper said. "With humiliating consequences for himself and his country, Mr. Papandreou chose to the roll the dice — and he lost."

Mayor of Mexican city killed only weeks before election

MORELIA, Mexico — The mayor of La Piedad had already seen his police chief killed when he too was fatally ambushed by gunmen as he campaigned for President Felipe Calderon's sister and other candidates in the upcoming state elections.

Luisa Maria Calderon is vying for governor in the Nov. 13 elections in Michoacan, the Calderon family home state where her brother five years ago launched the drug war and where many say the political system has the country's worst infiltration of drug cartels.

The killing late Wednesday of Mayor Ricardo Guzman, 45, could be the latest in a string of drug cartel threats all political parties say have occurred against candidates, and pose the specter that Mexico's drug violence will interfere with democracy and next week's vote.

Israeli settlements, tax 'jacking' retaliation for UNESCO actions

UNITED NATIONS — The Palestinians urged the U.N. Security Council on Thursday to take action against Israel for accelerating settlement construction and "illegally hijacking" Palestinian tax revenue in retaliation for their new membership in UNESCO.

Riyad Mansour, the Palestinian U.N. observer, warned that if Israel's actions aren't stopped immediately, the volatile region might see further "escalations and provocations."

Palestine won its first major international endorsement on Monday when the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization voted to grant it full membership, a decision that immediately led to a cutoff in funding from the United States and Canada.

Israel retaliated by announcing construction of 2,000 new apartments in east Jerusalem, where the Palestinians want their capital, and temporarily suspending the transfer of millions of dollars in Palestinian tax revenue that it collects on behalf of the Palestinian Authority.

Iraqi Shiite cleric says US military plans extended stay in Mideast

BAGHDAD — U.S. plans to station troops across the Mideast after withdrawing from Iraq amount to occupying other Islamic countries, Iraq's most outspoken anti-American cleric said in an interview broadcast Thursday.

Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr said he's not satisfied with President Barack Obama's pledge to pull all U.S. troops from Iraq by the end of the year, calling it a partial withdrawal because of the thousands of diplomats and security guards who will stay behind.

"The American occupation will stay in Iraq under different names," al-Sadr told Al-Arabiya TV in his first interview since Obama announced the troop pull-out last month.

Al-Sadr noted the Pentagon's recent reminders that it will keep an estimated 40,000 troops across the region.

"America is not only occupying Iraq but also other Islamic countries," he said. "Occupying Iraq means occupying what is around Iraq, and then to control the Middle East."

Compiled from Associated Press reports

Occupy movement transforms in Oakland



Kent Porter | Associated Press

Occupy Oakland protesters cheer as they climb on tractor trailers loaded with shipping containers at the Port of Oakland, Calif., on Wednesday, effectively shutting down the United States' fifth-busiest port during a day of non stop protesting in Oakland.

By Jason Dearen and Lisa Leff
The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Occupy Wall Street protesters had just a few hours to celebrate what they saw as their biggest victory so far: the peaceful shutdown of the nation's fifth-busiest port. Then the rioting began.

A day after some protesters clashed with riot police, set fires and shattered windows in Oakland, Calif., demonstrators across the country condemned the violence and wondered whether it was a turn that would destroy their cause.

"They don't speak for the majority of people who were here yesterday," said Hadas Alterman, a college student who was gathering trash at a tent camp near Oakland City Hall. "That was an hour of action, and we were out here for 12 hours and it was peaceful."

The protest outside the port, which reopened Thursday, represented an escalation in tactics as demonstrators targeted a major symbol of the nation's commerce with peaceful rallies and sit-ins.

The violence that followed, however, raised questions about whether a movement with no organizational structure and no high-profile leaders can do anything to stop those they called troublemakers.

Police in riot gear arrested more than 80 protesters in downtown Oakland, where bands of masked protesters took over a vacant building, erected roadblocks and threw chunks of concrete and firebombs. Five people and several officers were injured.

The far-flung movement challenging the world's economic systems and distribution of wealth has gained momentum in recent weeks, with Oakland becoming a rallying

point after an Iraq War veteran was injured in clashes with police last week.

Chris Hedges, who demonstrating at Goldman Sachs' headquarters in New York, said the clashes in Oakland are a reminder to protesters that they should only respond peacefully to police actions.

"It's awful. But police want people to break windows and set cars on fire, because it's the kind of thing they know how to master — with force," he said before being led quietly away in handcuffs.

Some protesters said violence can bring attention to the cause.

"This thing has to escalate so people see the violence and who is protecting the interests of the corporations," said Denver protester Dwayne Hudson, standing next to a grill with logs burning over charcoal to stay warm after a snowstorm.

Police, who had little to no presence during the protest during the day, said about 7,000 people participated in largely peaceful demonstrations. There were a few incidents of vandalism at local banks and businesses.

A protest organizer in Chicago, Joshua Kaunert, said the shutdown was an "amazing" event for the movement, but didn't want to speculate on what effect the violence would have. He said the lack of a formal leadership structure — and the emphasis on what he called a "true, direct democracy" — makes it difficult to weed out potential troublemakers.

"As a movement, it is definitely hard to keep that kind of element away, but that's a double-edged sword," Kaunert said. "If you want true, direct democracy, you're going to have issues, regardless."

At the Oakland encampment, Hale Nicholson, who described himself and others as pacifists, said he participated in Wednesday's march to the port and then went to sleep at the camp around 9:30 p.m. Around 1 a.m., he was awakened by the sound of flash-bangs.

A group of protesters broke into the former Travelers Aid building in order to, as some shouting protesters put it, "reclaim the building for the people." They voiced anger over budget cuts that forced the closure of a homeless aid program.

They blocked off a street with wood, metal Dumpsters and other large trash bins, sparking bonfires that leapt as high as 15 feet in the air. Several businesses were heavily vandalized. Dozens of protesters wielding shields were surrounded and arrested. Police said they used tear gas and beanbags to disperse the crowd.

It is the kind of posture that Oakland is familiar with, with clashes erupting during the 1960s-era protests over the Vietnam War and the draft, among other issues.

Then, as now, police blamed the violence on a small group of anarchists, many from outside the city. People who participated in the daytime protests returned to help sweep up debris and scrub off graffiti.

Worldwide protesters sustain for seven weeks

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK

More than 50 Occupy Wall Street protesters are headed toward a trial on disorderly conduct charges after they refused prosecutors' offers to dismiss the charges if they stay out of trouble for six months.

They were among 79 demonstrators due in Manhattan criminal court Thursday on charges stemming from a Sept. 24 march to Union Square.

MANHATTAN

About 100 military veterans marched in uniform Wednesday from the Vietnam Veterans Plaza near Wall Street through Manhattan.

Marine Sgt. Shamar Thomas, who went toe to toe recently with officers policing activists in Times Square, said soldiers who risked their lives have the right to protest an economy that gives them a slimmer chance of finding jobs than most Americans.

WASHINGTON

Several hundred Occupy Seattle demonstrators protested in the rain Wednesday night outside a hotel where JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon was invited to speak.

Police used pepper spray to clear a side entrance so Sheraton Seattle Hotel patrons could enter or leave, The Seattle Times reported.

ENGLAND

A lawyer for protesters camped outside London's St. Paul's Cathedral said Wednesday that authorities have offered to let the tent city stay until next year, as the leader of the world's Anglicans backed a so-called Robin Hood tax on financial transactions as one way to alleviate the global economic crisis.

The loosely organized demonstration against capitalist excess has wrong-footed both city and church officials since it began last month, defying pleas to leave and the threat of legal action.

MASSACHUSETTS

Members of the Occupy Boston movement, students from area colleges and union workers marched through downtown Boston to protest the nation's burgeoning student debt crisis.

Protesters said higher education has gotten too costly, in part because of onerous, high-interest loans. They say total student debt in the U.S. increases by \$1 million every six minutes and will reach \$1 trillion this year, potentially undermining the economy.

Some called for complete forgiveness of student debt; others said government should more heavily subsidize state colleges and universities.



Noah Berger | Associated Press

A guard looks out at a broken window at a Wells Fargo bank branch on Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2011, in Oakland, Calif.

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VIEWPOINT

Burnt orange paint job

MyEdu is getting an expensive burnt orange paint job. For several months, rumors have surrounded the UT System's incipient acquisition of a major stake in the private web-based company, but until an Austin American-Statesman story ran Sunday, the details were fuzzy. The Statesman story revealed a \$10-million investment decision shrouded in secrecy and entangled in a myriad of unethical conflicts of interest.

Former UT System Chancellor William Cunningham invested \$175,000 of his own money in the company, which was co-founded by his son. The current regents seemed only too willing to invest in MyEdu, consulting the University of Texas Investment Management Co. — the System's independent investing arm — only after a decision had been made and, even then, only to ensure that they were not making a giant financial mistake. A giant academic one, apparently, was just fine.

The regents say they invested in MyEdu to improve four-year graduation rates. MyEdu features a polished, accessible way to get students to carefully plan their courses from semester to semester. It can also be used by students to find classes that interest them. Of course, most students know MyEdu as a place to scout the easiest classes and professors who are the most generous in distributing A's. Somewhat ironically, MyEdu perhaps already helps to increase four-year graduation rates insofar as it allows students to find classes they can complete easily. But this is probably not what the regents had in mind.

In any event, the deal has been rightly criticized by members of the University community because of the process by which the decision was made. No one at UT was consulted during the decision-making process. President William Powers Jr. pointedly remarked that the \$10 million would have been better spent elsewhere.

Yet here we are. Anyone who has been paying attention to the higher education debate over the past year should not be surprised. Two features of the debate have made this deal not only possible but likely.

First, the debate has been marked by and expressed in a rhetoric of crisis that continues to today. The faculty members and students that have been caricatured throughout the debate have been furthering a "higher education crisis" in which our graduation rates are low and our faculty's productivity is allegedly deplorable. Crisis, of course, breeds opportunity. In the pressure to act quickly to save higher education from its impending doom, the chance for someone to interject his or her own personal motivations into the solution has been readily available. The alleged immediacy of the threat, in other words, has given political cover to those who would seek to exploit the "crisis" for their own personal gain. Moving more slowly and thoughtfully precludes this sort of opportunism.

Second, the debate has focused on improving the "efficiency" of higher education. That imperative has slowly morphed into a general consensus that we should improve our four-year graduation rates. Unfortunately for the deal's critics, MyEdu may well help improve graduation rates. But the way it may do so — enabling students to choose the easiest classes and professors — has rightly troubled observers because of its anti-intellectual and anti-academic nature. That part of the solution to a problem of inefficiency involves features like this should surprise precisely no one because of the nature of the goal itself. Whether this is an academic cost the University community is willing to bear in pursuit of its goal of increasing graduation rates has, until now, been decided in the negative.

So the blame for this Faustian deal cannot be laid squarely at the feet of the regents. To the extent that we have accepted the narrative of crisis and accepted the anti-intellectual call to improve efficiency, we have all been complicit. If it hadn't been MyEdu, it would have been something else.

Hopefully the University can, as Powers has suggested, mold MyEdu to serve better purposes than it currently does and, in so doing, make the site worthy of its new burnt orange hue.



Consider students when addressing jaywalking

 **By Helen Hansen**
Daily Texan Columnist

Last week, the Austin Police Department began cracking down on jaywalking with a focus on Guadalupe Street, according to an article in The Daily Texan. The two-week campaign is a response to the 17 pedestrians who have been killed this year in motor vehicle accidents in Austin, according to Lt. Ely Reyes of APD's Highway Enforcement Command. To be effective, APD should continue this initiative for a longer period of time. However, the city also needs to lengthen the time the crosswalk is open for pedestrian traffic if they are serious about reducing the number of pedestrian deaths.

Students caught jaywalking are written a ticket for more than \$100, a hefty discouragement to anyone thinking to make an illegal sprint across the street to get to class on time.

APD, however, only promised a zero-tolerance policy from Oct. 24 to Nov. 5 — less than two weeks. This brings up the question of whether APD is truly concerned with protecting pedestrians for the long term or if it is simply using this misdemeanor as an excuse to jack up revenue at the end of the month. If APD wants to make a real difference in the number of pedestrian deaths, it needs to be stationed on the corner of Guadalupe and 24th for a lot longer.

Most students jaywalk because they know that if they wait for the crosswalk signal to change like they are supposed to, they will likely be waiting for several minutes and possibly be late to class. Anxious students rush across the street at the first lull in traffic, putting themselves and the oncoming driver at physical risk.

This dangerous traffic dance could be avoided if crosswalks were open for longer periods of time or more frequently. At the length of

time crosswalks across Guadalupe are currently open, students waiting right on the curb are lucky to make it across with more than a few seconds to spare. This means almost no students walking toward the crosswalk have a fair opportunity to cross and they must then wait for at least two minutes before they get their turn.

In those two minutes, masses of students pile up on the sidewalk waiting to cross so that, when the light does finally turn in their favor, there is not sufficient space in the crosswalk for all of them. Jaywalking is not only defined as crossing a street without the light in your favor but also as walking outside of the crosswalk. The students, who obediently waited for so long to cross the street end up jaywalking anyway because the crosswalk does not accommodate the number of walkers.

Because so many students live in West Campus, it would be very prudent to increase the crossing time across Guadalupe from the 25 seconds it is at now to 45 seconds or even a minute. This should especially apply to weekdays during the afternoon, when student pedestrian traffic is at its highest and motor vehicle traffic seems to be at its lowest. Certainly Guadalupe is a busy street, but usually it is only backed up with vehicles after 4 p.m. and on game days. During the school day, when motor vehicle traffic is low and pedestrian traffic is high, priority should be given to pedestrians.

As college students, we must remember to exercise more caution on Guadalupe Street than on campus, as the Drag is not part of the University. But the city needs to recognize that part of Guadalupe a regular stomping ground for students, and city planners should consider our safety and daily routine when discussing the issue of jaywalking.

Hansen is a Plan II and public relations freshman.



11-2-11 THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER. UNIVERSAL UCCLE.

THE FIRING LINE

TA story lacked balance

Thursday's article, "English proficiency levels vary among teaching assistants," does not provide a balanced overview of either foreign-language teaching on campus or teachers whose first language is not English. By focusing primarily on a Korean assistant instructor, living for the first time in the United States and teaching a Spanish-language course, the author has chosen the most exceptional, extremely rare, case rather than the norm.

The article also makes the assumption that assistant instructors from other countries should be familiar with not just American but Texan customs and dialect. The point of foreign language study, on the contrary, is not just to teach a skill but to familiarize students with other cultures and, at the same time, make them aware that local customs are exactly that — local. Finally, language courses are routinely taught as an immersion experience in the target language — in this case, Spanish.

Had I been contacted for an interview, I could have provided The Daily Texan with much of the above information.

Jill Robbins
Chair, Department of Spanish and Portuguese

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Email your Firing Lines to firingline@dailytexanonline.com. Letters must be more than 100 and fewer than 300 words. The Texan reserves the right to edit all submissions for brevity, clarity and liability.

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RECYCLE

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Spreading truth of Bahrain

By Andrew Messamore
Daily Texan Staff

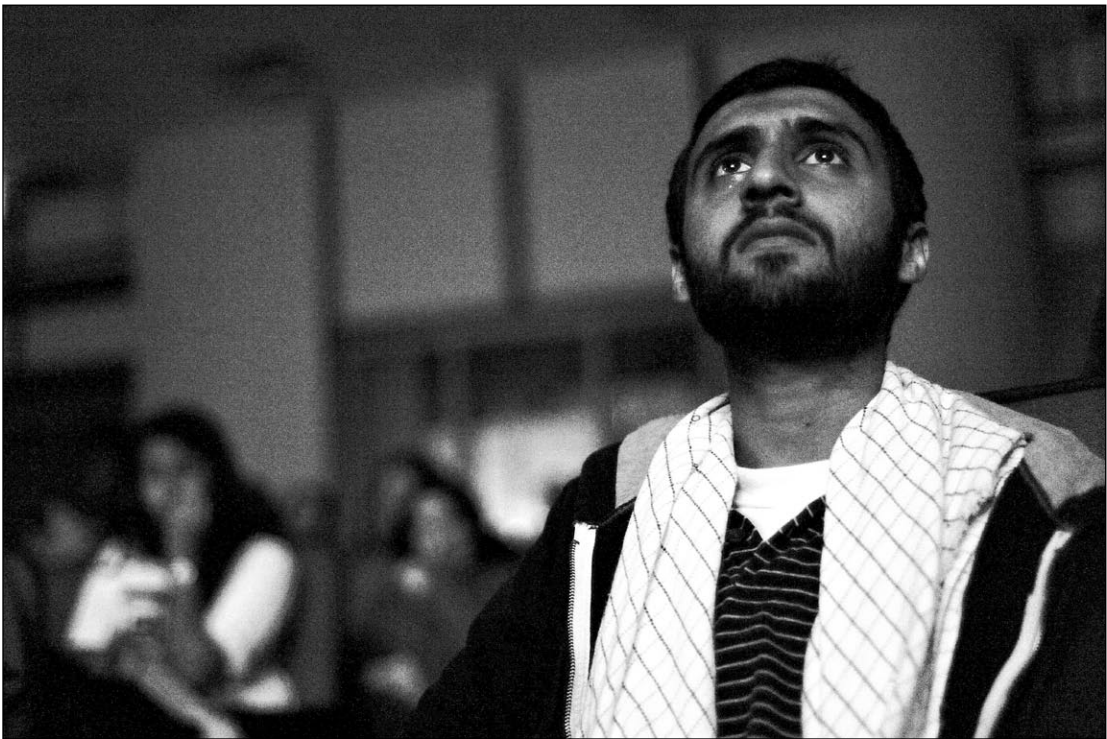
Footage of executions, beatings and police brutality flooded projection screens at Mezes Hall Thursday evening during a showing of Al Jazeera's documentary "Bahrain: Shouting in the Dark" for an audience of around 150, hosted by the Society for Islamic Awareness.

Created by journalists from the Qatar based news channel Al Jazeera, the documentary tells the story of the 2011 Bahrain Uprising, an Arab spring movement which seeks to create a constitutional monarchy in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The documentary follows the uprising from its beginnings at the Pearl Roundabout area in Bahrain's capital of Manama to the arrests and torture of protesters by the Bahrain military and soldiers from the Gulf Cooperation Council, a coalition of six major nations on the Arabian peninsula.

Up until recently the United States had been supplying arms to Bahrain and the Gulf Cooperation Council, said Saif Kazim, general secretary of the society. Members said they hope to encourage UT students to support a reversal on a \$53 billion arms deal between the U.S and Bahrain, scheduled to go before Congress for vote on Nov. 23 after conclusions from a human rights probe by the Bahraini government have been published.

"Unfortunately, the outcomes of the current human rights probe depend on the Bahraini government,



Society for Islamic Awareness member Haziq Sheikh watches the documentary "Bahrain: Shouting in the Dark," on Thursday evening in the Mezes auditorium. The society screened the film and held a discussion afterward to bring awareness to the 2011 revolution in Bahrain.

which is a bit fixed to say the least. We want to raise awareness about this vast crackdown on human rights," Kazim said. "We feel like we shouldn't be supporting this kind of monarchy and that we should create a public discussion about the events in Bahrain."

Ehssan Faraji, regular events chair of the society, began the evening with a statement about the current state of Bahrain and asked the audience to take action and write to

their representatives to continue to ban U.S. arms deals with Bahrain.

"For decades the masses in Bahrain have been oppressed by the ruling Al Khalifa family and on Feb. 14 they came out to protest the rule of monarchy, inspired by events in Egypt and Tunisia," Faraji said. "Despite oppression, we are seeing the flourishing of a democratic movement in Bahrain."

This is the first UT screening of the documentary since its release on

Aug. 4 and the society hopes that its release will create more awareness and dialogue about Islam, hopefully impacting the events in Bahrain, said Mohammed Dhanji, president of the society.

"There's this perception that things have calmed down a lot, but there's still reports and arrests and the government is still cracking down on protestors," Kazim said. "We need to let people know that this is unacceptable."

UT students, UT spokeswoman Rhonda Weldon said UTPD re-issued a warning via social media that APD sent out Thursday.

"We did a tweet on UTPD's account and it's posted on our website," Weldon said.

Weldon said the message was also posted to the UTPD Facebook account, and the organization's Be Safe, Texas Twitter account and website.

--Megan Strickland

Art history lecture discusses creative writing challenges



Rebeca Rodriguez | Daily Texan Staff

Dr. Robertson Tejada and Dr. Alexander Nemerov talk about the aesthetics of writing about art Thursday night. Robertson is Distinguished Endowed Chair in Art History at Southern Methodist University and Nemerov is professor of the history of art at Yale University.

By Jody Serrano
Daily Texan Staff

Alexander Nemerov, an art professor at Yale University, said art can be expressed and perceived in different ways by different people, and all of these interpretations are valuable.

Nemerov spoke alongside Roberto Tejada, an art history professor at Southern Methodist University, Thursday night as a part of the Art History Lecture Series sponsored by the Blanton Museum and the UT art history department. More than 60 people attended the event. The lecture focused on the methodology art writers use and challenges they face expressing themselves creatively.

Tejada said one of these challenges include distinguishing the thin line between fact and fiction. He said writers often feel restricted by the historical record of literature, photographs and paintings and become afraid to express their own point of view in their writings.

"Think of art history as speculative fiction," Tejada said. "We're referring to what happens afterwards. [Writing about] how things are related is what really conveys your point of view and makes you accountable."

Tejada said Argentine writer Jorge Luis Borges was a great example of interpretive fiction because he often mixed fact with fiction.

Associate art history professor Cherise Smith helped organize the lecture to inspire her students to be more creative in their writing. Smith said writing is an art form and something visual that can be defined creatively. "As grad students, people want to make an iron clad argument and believe writing creatively doesn't get you to that end point," Smith said. "It's like dancing with a strict format versus moving your hips and moving your arms."

Art history graduate student Doris Bravo said many graduate students believe creative writing should be separate from academic writing. Bravo said she liked the lecture because Tejada and Nemerov emphasized it is okay to be creative and read and write for fun.

"We're programmed to be very scientific and when you layer a story you always have a fear people won't take it seriously," Bravo said.

Nemerov said when he teaches art history courses he never assigns books on art history and instead assigns classics like "In Cold Blood" by Truman Capote. Nemerov said the best writing conveys what the writer took away from the art without any regard to what anyone else says and whether it's going to be read.

"You have to have the courage to be a little weird," Nemerov said. "There is value in something that gets spoken without any guarantee it's ever going to be heard."

String of Craigslist robberies puts campus police on alert

In a string of armed robberies in West Campus, an unidentified man has targeted people selling iPhones on Craigslist, according to the Austin Police Department and the University Police Department.

Four individuals were robbed between Oct. 28 and Oct. 31, said Austin Police Department Lt. Michael Eveleth. He said in all of the robberies the suspect contacted victims through Craigslist asking to purchase a used iPhone. During the exchanges, the suspect used a hand gun to forcibly take the iPhone, but did not demand anything else from the victims.

Eveleth said in one case the suspect, believed to be a single individual, was reported to have worn bright green painted dress shoes. The suspect has arranged meetings in the evenings between 5 p.m. and midnight, he said.

Eveleth said Craigslist vendors should take precautions when meeting with potential buyers.

"The best thing to do is not to be in an isolated area," Eveleth said. "Be in a place that's well-lit. Don't let them change locations unexpectedly."

Although Eveleth said he did not think any of the victims were

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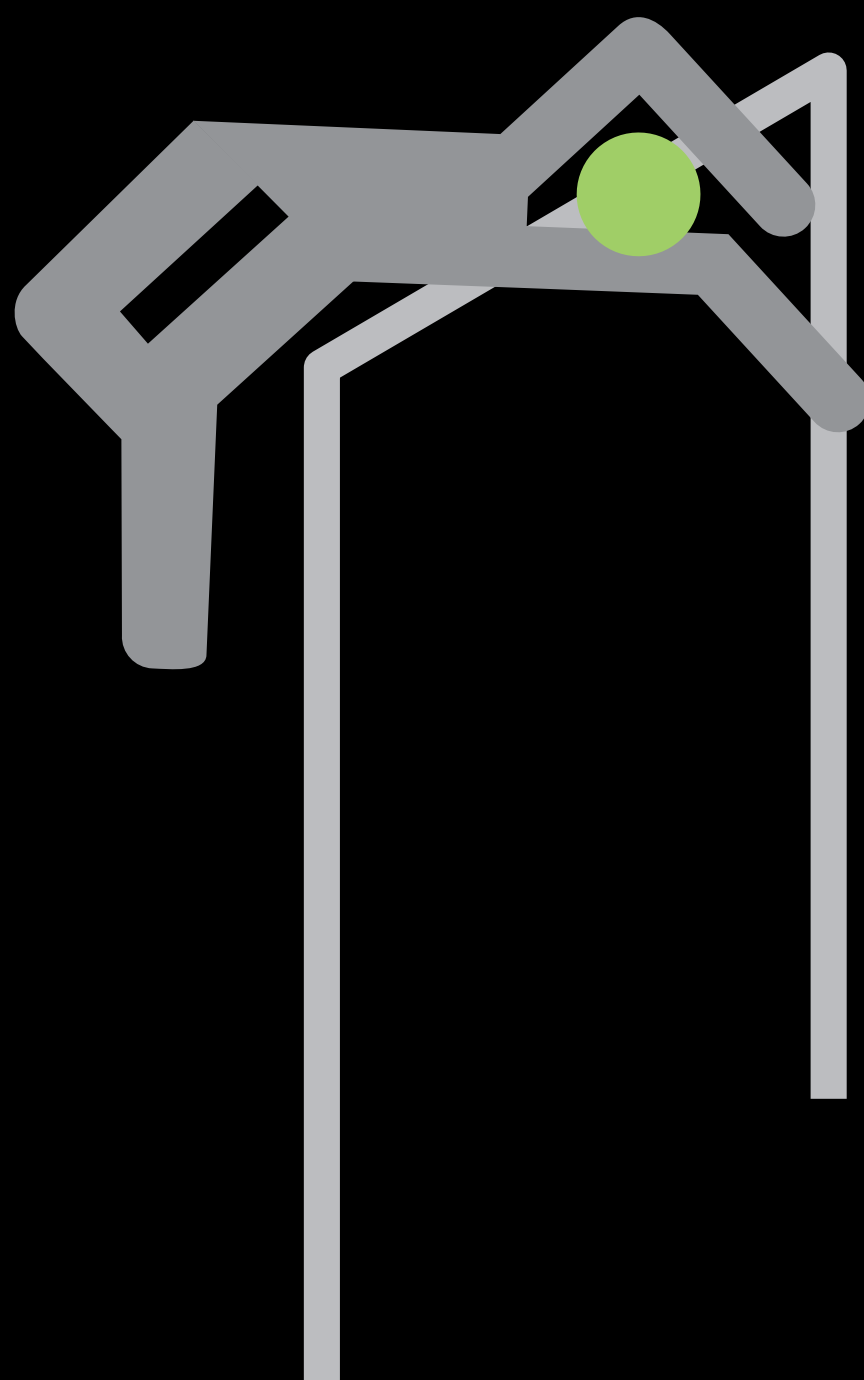
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Gaul, Cummins give Texas a shot at conference title

By Mario Carrillo
Daily Texan Staff

The Longhorns take the field this evening looking to reach the final round of the Big 12 Championship as they take on top seeded Oklahoma State University.

Texas is hoping to build on top of the momentum from Wednesday's victory when they shut out Texas Tech, 1-0, in the first round of the tournament.

The No. 2 Cowgirls, having just defeated the Oklahoma Sooners in the first round, come into the match undefeated, 18-0-2, and are looking to win their second-consecutive Big 12 tournament.

The Longhorns will need a strong defensive performance, especially from junior goalkeeper Alexa Gaul. Last week Gaul was named to the All Big 12 second team for her contributions on the field this season.

Wednesday's shutout against the Raiders was

CUMMINS continues on PAGE 8



Junior mid-fielder Kristin Cummins (8) scored in the first half of the Longhorns' 1-1 tie against Oklahoma State on Oct. 14, it was the only first-half goal conceded by the Cowgirls all season.

Danielle Villasana
Daily Texan
file photo

VOLLEYBALL

Freshman outside hitter Khat Bell (1) eyes a defender and readies herself for a block in a recent game. Bell is just one part of a skilled freshman class that has performed at a very high level for Texas this year.



Fanny Trang
Daily Texan Staff

Freshmen continue to produce results

By Lauren Giudice
Daily Texan Staff

Over the past seven games, it has been very easy to forget that Khat Bell and Haley Eckerman are just freshmen and that Bailey Webster was injured all last season.

But it's true.

These three players are continuing to improve individually, but the entire team is improving with them and the chemistry on the Longhorn offense is thriving. The numbers don't lie — Texas out-hit Iowa State .390-to-.179 last Friday.

"Bailey Webster is really starting to believe in terms of her skill level that she can perform at a high level day in and day out," said head coach Jerritt Elliott.

Bell, who was named Big 12 rookie of the week after her 13-kill, six-block performance against

No. 9 Longhorns (17-4 overall, 8-1 Big 12) have taken sole possession of first place in the Big 12 and are ready to take on Kansas

Iowa State, recently moved to middle. This has aided the team in its seven-game winning streak.

"When you're having not only

Bailey, but Haley Eckerman playing at the level that they're playing, it's a great one-two punch on the left side," Elliott said.

He said Webster is a lot farther along in her play than he would have expected at this point in the season. But, he said the Longhorns do have areas to improve on.

"On Friday night we felt like we had some opportunities to go on some big runs and we just didn't execute in certain areas that we've actually been practicing on," Elliott said.

The No. 9 Longhorns (17-4 overall, 8-1 Big 12) have taken sole possession of first place in the Big 12 and are ready to take on Kansas in Lawrence on Saturday. The teams met earlier this year and the Longhorns swept the Jayhawks.

SIDELINE

NCAAF

AKRON 3

MIAMI (OH) 35

TULSA 24

UCF 17

FLORIDA ST. 38

BOSTON COLLEGE 7

TWEET OF THE WEEK

Mack Brown @MBTexasFootball

"Captains just announced for the Texas Tech game: Mason Walters, Jamison Berryhill, Keenan Robinson and Blake Gideon."

WEEKEND PREVIEW

MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

Horns slated to participate in dual meet

By Matt Warden
Daily Texan Staff

After emerging the victors in their first meet of the year, the Longhorns are prepared to plow through their next dual meet with Indiana and Michigan.

The men looked very strong in the Southwest Collegiate Plunge, bringing home the title for the

third year in a row.

Coming into the season it was the hope of the Longhorns that all the classes would do their part and the team, a blend of youth and experience, looked very promising. So far, everything has gone according to that plan.

In the opening meet of the year, senior Neil Caskey and sophomore Patrick Murphy

stole the show, winning two individual events and two relay events apiece.

TEXAS VS. MICHIGAN

Date: Fri.- Sat.
Time: All day
Place: Ann Arbor, Mich.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

Bispo, Pawlowicz lead undefeated squad

By Matt Warden
Daily Texan Staff

The Longhorns have won their first three competitions of the year and are in great position going into today's meet with conference foes Texas A&M.

Senior captain Karlee Bispo is off to her usual great start, propelling the Longhorns to victory at the SMU Classic, earning her-

self the honor of Big 12 Swimmer of the Week.

Freshman Kaitlin Pawlowicz has looked very strong, winning two events in the dual meet with Indiana and Michigan last week. Freshmen Gretchen Jacques and Kelsey LeNeave have also contributed to the team's overall success, swimming very competitively in the dual meet as well.

The Longhorns will attempt

to remain undefeated when they welcome Texas A&M here to Austin for the first home meet of the season this evening.

TEXAS VS. ATM

Date: Friday
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: College Station

ROWING

Longhorns prepare for Head of the Hooch

By Chijioke Okorie
Daily Texan Staff

Texas is gearing up for the Head of the Hooch Regatta in Chattanooga, Tenn. Last week the team competed in the Head of the Colorado Regatta here in Austin.

The first varsity eight boat of coxswain Megan Kelly, stroke Melanie Eckert, Laurel McCa-

ig, Hannah Moon, Jessica Glen-nie, Jacqueline Gorcyca, Kim Gorcyca, Sydney Boyes and Felicia Izaguirre-Werner, finished in first place in the open eight, with a time of 16:09.4.

The second varsity eight boat of coxswain Rachel Donnelly, stroke Taylor Parker, Chelsea Burns, Devon Clark, Karli Sheahan, Olivia Nail, Anna Thom-

son, Katie Trovato and Courtney Nicklas, finished in third with a time of 16:48.0.

TEXAS VS. T

Date: Sat.- Sun.
Time: All day
Place: Chattanooga, Tenn.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Ellis advances to next round

By Kathryn Thiel
Daily Texan Staff

The Longhorns begin the Cougar Fall Draw in Houston today. Meanwhile, junior Aerial Ellis traveled to New York for the Nov. 3 ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championship after qualifying in the ITA regional tournament.

Freshmen Lina Padegimaite and Alex Martin, as well as sophomores Juliana Gajic and Elizabeth Begley will be competing in Houston this weekend. Gajic, Begley and Martin will try to build off their doubles success in Fort Worth, while Padegimaite enters the Cougar Fall Draw hoping to post her

first win of the season.

The ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championship marks Ellis' eighth consecutive national championship event in which she has qualified and competed. Thursday afternoon, Ellis dropped the first set to Duke's Beatrice Capra 6-3 but was able to bounce back and win straight sets (6-4, 6-2). Ellis will face Miami's Anna Bartenstein today in the round of 16.

TEXAS VS. UH

Date: Fri.- Mon.
Time: All day
Place: Houston

MEN'S TENNIS

Pair still alive after defeat

By Lauren Jette
Daily Texan Staff

The Longhorns' doubles team opened Thursday with a win before falling in the quarterfinal round of the ITA Indoor Intercollegiate Championships in New York.

The duo of junior Chris Camillone and sophomore David Holiner won their first round match by an 8-6 score over Mike-lis Libietis and Hunter Reese of Tennessee, before losing 4-8 to Valdosta State's Christian Hansen and Luis Loeffler.

The loss moves the tandem into the consolation bracket, which will start play today.

Camillone and Holiner earned a spot in the 20-team doubles

draw of the tournament by defeating fellow teammates Ben Chen and Daniel Whitehead in the finals of the ITA Texas Regional Championships in College Station last month.

This tournament is the second of three national championship events on the collegiate tennis calendar. The ITA National Championships were held in Tulsa at the beginning of October and the NCAA Championships will wrap up the spring season next May.

TEXAS VS. NCAA

Date: Fri.- Sat.
Time: All day
Place: Tulsa, Okla.

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Cano lifts MLB stars to victory, bullpen stifles Taiwan's best

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Robinson Cano doubled in a run in the seventh inning to help an MLB All-Star team beat Taiwan's national team 5-3 Thursday in the second game of a five-game series.

The New York Yankees' second baseman also singled and scored in the sixth inning in the game in Taichung.

"They got a great team," Cano said. "They played a pretty good game."

The Taiwanese went ahead 3-2 in the fifth, scoring twice on three hits and a walk. The MLB squad tied it in the sixth and added two more runs in the seventh.

Relievers Rich Thompson of the Los Angeles Angels, Ramon Ramirez of the San Francisco Giants and Bill Bray of the Cincinnati Reds kept the Taiwanese scoreless from the sixth inning on.

—The Associated Press

NCAA President defends stipend, still against additional payment

HOUSTON — NCAA President Mark Emmert says university leaders across the country are "adamant" about never allowing student-athletes to be paid for playing.

Emmert spoke Thursday to the Houston Economic Club, a week after the Division I Board of Directors approved a set of sweeping reforms. The move included an option to add \$2,000 annually to scholarship offers.

Critics view the stipend as the first step toward eventually paying student-athletes to compete. Emmert said the money is simply meant to close the gap between a scholarship — which only covers tuition, room and board and books — and the "full cost of attendance," which include other expenses incurred by athletes during the season.

—The Associated Press

Rangers Ballpark will undergo changes

ARLINGTON — Visiting managers will soon have an unobstructed view into their bullpen at Rangers Ballpark.

A reconfigured bullpen is among nearly \$12 million in stadium upgrades the Rangers announced Thursday. The plans were in the works before the bullpen phone foul-up for St. Louis manager Tony La Russa in Game 5 of the World Series.

The entire plaza in center field is being redone. A play area for kids that had taken up most of the plaza is being moved to an indoor location nearby. There will be a new indoor seating area, a Rangers-themed restaurant/sports bar and four new concession areas. Bleachers will be replaced by individual seats.

The changes, including changing the orientation of the bullpen to run parallel to the left-center field fence, are scheduled to be completed before the 2012 season opener for the two-time defending American League champions.

The Rangers had previously announced plans to make all protective railings along front-row seats

above field level at the stadium a uniform height of 42 inches. Some rails will be raised as much as a foot after a firefighter's fatal fall in July when he reached out to catch a ball tossed his way. That project is also expected to be completed before the April 6 home opener.

Team CEO Nolan Ryan said the changes in center field will add more concessions and entertainment options and provide ways to cool off in the summer months at the stadium that opened in 1994. The Rangers set an attendance record of 2,946,949 this season despite 27 games when the temperature was 100 degrees or higher at first pitch.

"We have a commitment to our fans to provide the finest ballpark experience," said Ryan, the Hall of Fame pitcher who is part of the ownership group that acquired the team in August 2010. "This project represents the most extensive renovation in the history of the park and we plan to make further upgrades in the coming years."

Pitchers in the visitor's bullpen in

left-center would have their backs to the field behind a barrier when warming up during games. With that setup, it was hard if not impossible to see from the visitor's dugout along the third-base line.

In Game 5 of the World Series on Oct. 24, there was a miscommunication between La Russa and a coach on the bullpen phone about who should be warming up. All the confusion came during the decisive eighth inning when the Rangers went ahead 4-2. Texas ended up winning to take a series lead before the Cardinals won both games in St. Louis to claim the World Series championship.

Aluminum bleacher seats on the left and right field sides of the grassy area in straightaway center will be replaced by individual seats. The capacity in the area will decrease from 1,075 to 424, but there will also be covered deck areas with open seating and tables on either side of the new indoor seating area that will be known as the Batter's Eye Club.

— The Associated Press



Reginald Rutledge displays his model of the Rangers Ballpark in his home backyard in Arlington. Twelve million dollars worth of renovations to the ballpark's bullpen will take place in the coming weeks.

CUMMINS continues from PAGE 7

Gaul's seventh of the season and 19th of her career, which placed her in second on the Texas record books for career clean sheets.

Texas is one of only two teams to not have lost to Oklahoma State this season. During regular season action, they played to a 1-1 draw in Stillwater.

On offense, the Longhorns will be looking to junior mid-fielder Kristin Cummins and senior forward Kylie Doniak to step up. Both are tied for the team lead in goals with five.

Doniak, who had been the central figure in the Longhorn playbook earlier this season, is coming off a knee injury that kept her out of five games this season.

Texas leads the all time series against the Cowgirls 9-7-3.

Johnson misses yet another practice

By Kristie Rieken
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Houston Texans coach Gary Kubiak hasn't ruled out wide receiver Andre Johnson for Sunday's game against Cleveland after the star wide receiver missed his second straight day of practice Thursday.

Kubiak said Johnson, who is recovering from a hamstring injury, was feeling better but the Texans didn't feel he was ready to practice. The receiver went through an intense workout Monday that left him sore and caused him to miss the practices. Kubiak expects Johnson to return to practice on Friday.

"I'm not scared to play Andre if he doesn't practice," Kubiak said. "He knows what's going on. This is strictly about his health and how he's feeling."

Johnson was injured Oct. 2 against Pittsburgh and had a minor procedure to repair the right hamstring injury early the next week. He has missed four straight games and the Texans dropped the first two without him before winning their last two.

With Johnson out, the Texans have just four healthy receivers on their roster. Jacoby Jones has been starting opposite Kevin Walter while Johnson recovers, and the Texans also have Derrick Mason and Bryant Johnson.

Walter led the group with five receptions for 70 yards in Sunday's win over Jacksonville, which improved the Texans to 5-3 and 3-0 in the AFC South. Tight end Owen Daniels also pitched in, snagging four passes for 60 yards.




Houston Texans' Andre Johnson appears on the field before a game against the Oakland Raiders in Houston. Johnson hasn't played since Oct. 2 after a minor procedure on his right hamstring.


Kubiak has been impressed with their work while Johnson sits on the bench.

"Andre is our big gun. He's a great player, a tremendous player and when you lose a guy like that for four games in a season it's very tough," Kubiak said. "It's tough on the quarterback, tough on the group, tough on the receivers. I think they've all kind of responded in their own way. They've all made plays and it's been a grind for them."

Running back Arian Foster had just one reception for 12 yards against Jacksonville, but his 299 yards receiving in the last four games have led the team with Johnson out.



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KUMAR continues from PAGE 12

story of Harold and Kumar's inevitable reunion, letting the two characters rediscover their friendship just as the audience is remembering just why we enjoy watching these two goofy idiots in the first place. While the story's emotional climax is too convenient, it doesn't dilute the film's effectiveness in capturing the spirit of male camaraderie that can be too easily lost as the

participants become adults. "A Very Harold and Kumar 3D Christmas" proudly flaunts the traditions of every Christmas movie ever made, right down to its early November release date. Its crude distortion of holiday sentiment and various Christmas movies, combined with the inherent laughs from its always-effective lead duo, makes for a quite entertaining third installment in the series.



Comics illustration by Betsy Cooper | Daily Texan Staff
John Cho, Kal Penn and Neil Patrick Harris are berry funny in *Holiday Comedy*. This movie is weediculous.

HEIST continues from PAGE 12

expected and some genuinely surprising. However, the final moments trade plot and character for spectacle as the characters find their plan crumbling under them and have to improvise as the Macy's Thanksgiving parade takes over the streets around them, making for some impressively-shot scenes that leave character development and logic behind. One need only read the newspaper, with its talk of Occupy Wall Street and other political movements focused on the

extreme upper class, to realize just how timely "Tower Heist" is, and the film will give many of those feeling the pressures of the times vicarious relief, if only for two hours. The film manages to bottle up all the resentment and anger of the current economic situation many are facing and convey it into a fun, relatively harmless comedy that brings Eddie Murphy back to being a funny, strong performer. For that, "Tower Heist" is easy to recommend.

FRANCE continues from PAGE 12

the trip and takes the group for wine tastings and other excursions. Sandi Reinlie has traveled with Boyle a few times as a pastry chef for the culinary tours. Reinlie said she returns home with new inspiration and skills after every trip. "You appreciate the amenities of American life, but there is something very special about slowing down," Reinlie said. "These trips make me a much better chef." It was that study abroad semester in 1999 that Boyle will always have to thank for "[fertilizing] the seed" of her love for French culture and lifestyle. "There's nothing that formal

education can teach you that trumps experiential education," Boyle said. "With all the things that life presents us, having a really complete understanding of other cultures, and yourself in context with other cultures, is really powerful." And as far as answering the age-old question of 'what do you want to be when you grow up,' Boyle just prefers not to answer that one. "I still don't know what I want to be when I grow up," Boyle laughed. "But I think success is just always having an interesting project ahead of you. It's up to us to make this journey pleasurable and inspiring."

Creator of iconic skateboarding shoes dies

By John Rogers
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The shoes James Van Doren and his brother cooked up in their family rubber factory turned out to be the perfect fit for the nascent skateboarding culture that was sweeping Southern California in the 1960s. They were cheap and they came in a variety of distinct designs that seemed to shout, "Cool California dude," as soon as you put on a pair. But most importantly, once you did slip on a pair of Vans, you never fell off your skateboard. At least not until you crashed it. Van Doren, whose background in chemistry and mechanics contributed to that unique, slip-resistant design, died Oct. 12 at his Fullerton home, his wife, Char, told The Associated Press. He was 72 and had been afflicted with cancer.

Van Doren and his older brother, Paul, were working for a sports shoe company in the 1960s when Paul suggested they and two friends form their own business. They would name it Vans and create an instantly recognizable logo with a capital V whose elongated tail covered the rest of the word. They decided to keep their prices low by cutting out the middle man, choosing to manufacture the shoes themselves and sell them at their own retail store in Anaheim. Initially, the company was so small that its first store carried only display samples. A customer would order a pair of shoes and the brothers would go next door to the family rubber factory to



Damian Dovargans | Associated Press
James Van Doren, the co-founder of Vans canvas shoes that were embraced by the skateboard culture and became a nationwide sensation, died on Oct. 12 in Fullerton, Calif.

make them. Often they would use patterns and designs the customers had brought in themselves. But most importantly, they would make the shoes' soles with a unique, waffle-like design perfect for gripping a wood surface like the top of a skateboard. "They got it right the first time. The sole they use, it's called the waffle sole. Nothing else seems to work nearly as good for skateboarding," said Herb Hogen, a former competitive skater who has been wearing Vans for 30 years. Soon the shoes seemed to be

ubiquitous with skateboarding across the country. "If you saw another guy wearing Vans, you immediately knew they were a skateboarder and you immediately had a connection," said Hogen, 42, a bicycle mechanic from Missoula, Mont., who still skates for fun. Teens continue to wear it to this day, and Vans continues to market to alternative youth culture, announcing a collaboration with the rock group Pearl Jam earlier this year. Over the years, however, the company did run into some bumps.

In 2004, Vans Inc., then headquartered in Santa Fe Springs, was bought by Greensboro, N.C.-based VF Corp., a clothing company with brands such as Wrangler jeans, Vanity Fair lingerie and The North Face outdoor line. As for James Van Doren, his loyalty to the American-made shoe never wavered. His wife says he wore Vans deck shoes "every day of his life." Besides his wife and brother, Van Doren is survived by sons James Jr., Mark and Eric; another brother, Robert; and a sister, Bernice Chute.

Final statements rest on jury in Michael Jackson case

By Linda Deutsch
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The case of Michael Jackson's doctor was placed in a jury's hands Thursday after contentious legal arguments over who was to blame for the superstar's death — the celebrity who craved sleep at any cost or the doctor accused of providing the drugs that killed him. In final statements delivered in a packed courtroom, a defense attorney cast Dr. Conrad Murray as a victim of Jackson's celebrity, saying he would never have been charged with involuntary manslaughter if his patient was someone other than Jackson. "They want you to convict Dr. Murray for the actions of Michael Jackson," attorney Ed Chernoff said. "This is not a reality show. It is reality." Prosecutor David Walgren portrayed Murray as a liar and greedy opportunist who put his own well-

fare before that of Jackson. "Conrad Murray is criminally liable for the death of Michael Jackson," he told jurors. "Not because it was Michael Jackson but because Conrad Murray is guilty of criminal negligence." Superior Court Judge Michael Pastor submitted the case to jurors after a full day of arguments and told them to begin deliberations Friday. If convicted, Murray could receive a minimum sentence of probation or a maximum of four years. He would be unlikely to serve that much time, however, because of jail overcrowding. Earlier, Walgren, in a carefully structured argument enhanced by video excerpts of witness testimony, spoke of the special relationship between a doctor and patient and said Murray had corrupted it by giving Jackson the anesthetic propofol as a sleep aid. He ridiculed the defense theory that Jackson had injected himself

with the fatal dose of the anesthetic and denounced the testimony of defense expert Paul White who blamed Jackson for his own death. "What you were presented by Dr. White was junk science. It was garbage science," Walgren said. Chernoff countered that Dr. Steven Shafer, a propofol expert who testified that evidence showed Murray killed Jackson, was wrong and overstepped his role as a scientist by becoming an advocate for Murray's conviction. He said Shafer ignored Murray's statement to police in which the physician said he gave the singer a small dose of propofol and left the room after the drug should have worn off. With Jackson's mother and siblings watching from the courtroom gallery, Walgren showed a photo of Jackson at his last rehearsal before the picture of the three Jackson children — Prince, Paris and Blanket — at their father's memorial. He also reminded jurors of the

scene in Jackson's bedroom when Paris came upon Murray frantically trying to revive her lifeless father and screamed, "Daddy!" "For Michael Jackson's children this case goes on forever because they do not have a father," Walgren said. The prosecutor repeatedly called Murray's treatment of Jackson bizarre and said there was no precedent for the cardiologist giving the singer propofol to help him sleep. Still, Jackson trusted him and that eventually cost the singer his life, Walgren said. With only Jackson and Murray present in the singer's room on the day he died, there are things that will never be known about his death, Walgren said. But he said it was clear that Murray, untrained in anesthesiology, was incompetent. "The people won't prove exactly what happened behind those closed doors," he said. "Michael Jackson could give answers, but he is dead."

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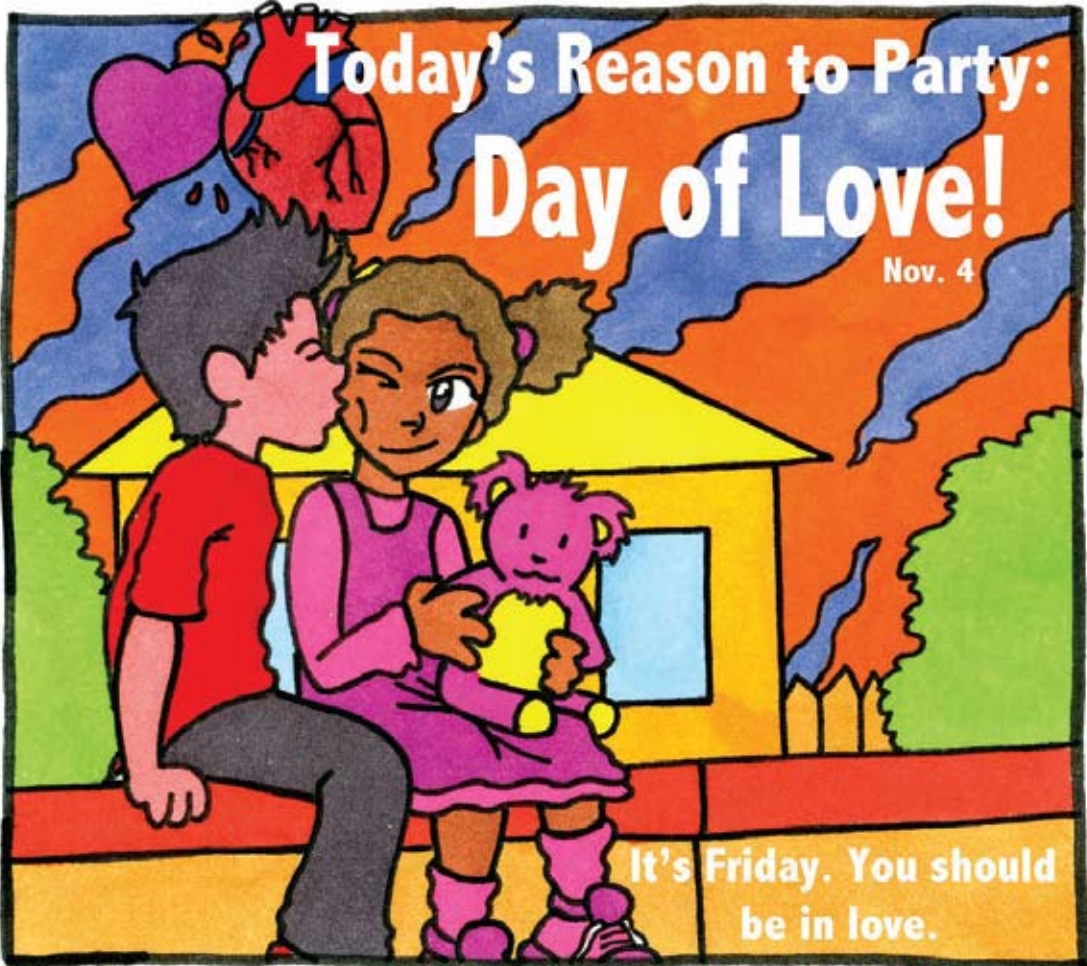
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By DAVID OUELLET
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T A V E R O I N N T Y S C F U
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O T V E T C T A O M R O A P S
N O K A M R R T N D A E M H Y
C O E A A B A I S T C G O W A
P R I C E R R W C I E U I O W
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		6	3			8	7	
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	8		6					9
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6	9		1	3	4			

Yesterday's solution

3	4	6	5	9	8	2	7	1
5	1	8	2	3	7	9	4	6
2	9	7	6	1	4	3	8	5
8	5	1	4	6	9	7	3	2
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4	6	2	3	7	1	5	9	8
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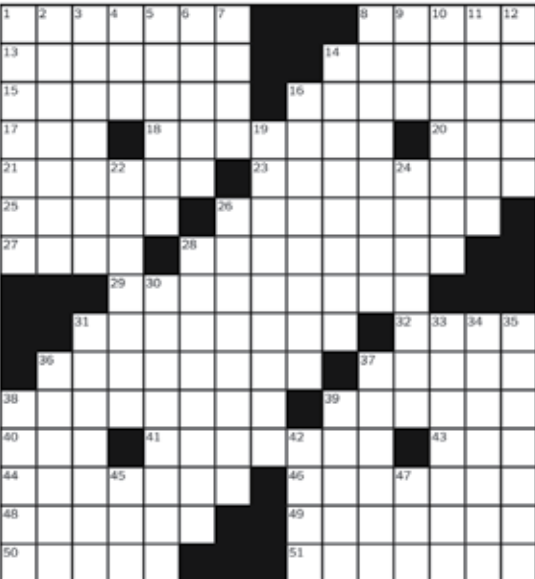
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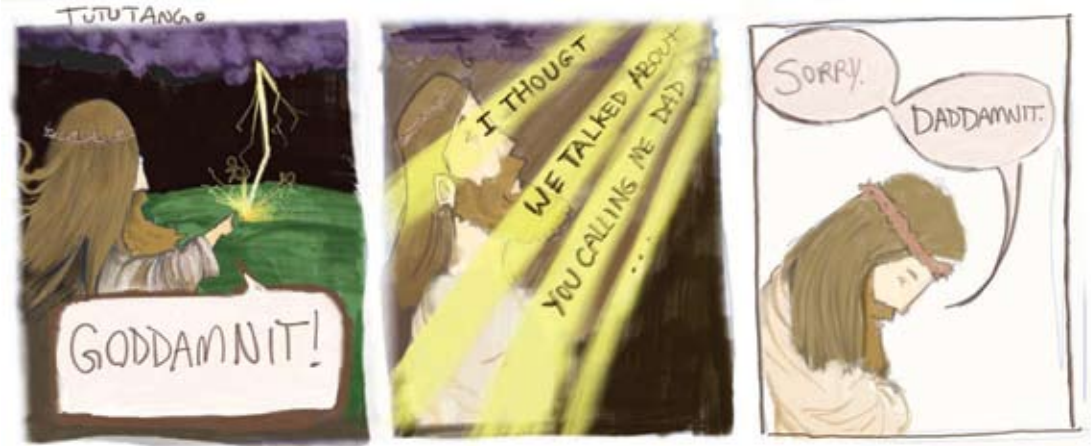
The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0930

- Across**
- 1 Many viviparous births
 - 8 Where many beads are formed
 - 13 Pretty good result for a golf round
 - 14 Without incident
 - 15 Coyote, say, to a Western rancher
 - 16 Subject of the 2001 book subtitled "The Shock of the Century"
 - 17 Stumble
 - 18 Like many resorts
 - 20 Expression of praise
 - 21 Clouds
 - 23 Toppers popular with jazzmen
 - 25 1958 Pulitzer-winning novelist and family
 - 26 His character had the signature line "Book 'em, Danno"
 - 27 Territory on a Risk board
 - 28 Like stools and many benches
 - 29 Event for many a dashing young man
 - 31 Having been overexposed to the sun, maybe
 - 32 Unrefined sort
 - 36 Officially starts work
 - 37 "Nature's lay idiot, I taught thee to love" penner
 - 38 Sea food
- Down**
- 1 Slight show of affection
 - 2 Going ballistic
 - 3 One producing 50-Across
 - 4 Petty recording
 - 5 Boots
 - 6 "___ Most Wanted" ("best-of" compilation of a popular TV cop show)
 - 7 Miss hitting a piñata?: Abbr.
 - 8 Bauhaus artist and teacher
 - 9 "___ I had heard of Lucy Gray": Wordsworth
 - 10 "La Loge" and "La Grenouillère"
 - 11 Skipped over
 - 12 General George at Gettysburg
 - 13 Points of view?
 - 14 "Chariots of Fire" co-star
 - 15 Charleson
 - 16 Doesn't go away
 - 17 Thing to drive off of
 - 18 Choices for snaps
 - 19 Like some Internet searches
 - 20 ___ monkey
 - 21 Least desirably
 - 22 Sounds from a 3-Down
 - 23 They're far from stars



- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**
- | | | |
|------------|------------|-------|
| POPUP | PISA | ONEL |
| IRENE | ROAR | DIRE |
| GRADEBONUS | OCIV | |
| RAF | SEM | ETE |
| CUPCAKE | ANTIQUE | |
| STOOGES | GINSU | |
| PESTERS | ECSTASY | |
| ARI | | LIE |
| NOTEPAD | THESIMS | |
| IRATE | ROPETOW | |
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- 14 Performed brilliantly
 - 16 Warehouse workers
 - 19 Job for some wall fixers
 - 22 Deuterium has one
 - 24 London letter getter
 - 26 Twenties
 - 28 Wheelie supporter
 - 30 Daredevilish
 - 31 Muleta material
 - 33 Four years as governor, say
 - 34 Like most apartments
 - 35 Minds
 - 36 Danes featured in films
 - 37 Renounce
 - 38 Little digit?
 - 42 Israel's first U.N. delegate
 - 45 Orthodontist's concern
 - 47 Mauna ___



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Debut film showcases new talent

‘Martha Marcy’ generates Oscar buzz

Elizabeth Olsen opens up about lead role

By Alex Williams
Daily Texan Staff

Any fan of good alliteration will certainly be excited about “Martha Marcy May Marlene,” but the majority of the film’s buzz is centered around star Elizabeth Olsen and director Sean Durkin, both of whom blindsided the film industry back at Sundance with the chilling, paranoid drama.

Martha (Olsen) opens the film stealing away from the secluded house in the New York Catskill Mountains where she’s spent the last few years of her life in a cult led by Patrick (the hypnotizing John Hawkes). Seeking refuge with her sister (Sarah Paulson) and brother-in-law (Hugh Dancy), Martha tries to return to normal society under the guise of having spent the last few years with a boyfriend, but finds reintegrating herself more difficult than she imagined, as the memories of her time in the mountains keep returning to haunt her.

Much of the film’s aesthetic is lifted from last year’s critical darling “Winter’s Bone,” from its stripped-down narrative to plentiful ambiguity to a strong supporting performance from John Hawkes, but the film also has plenty of its own tricks up its sleeve. The biggest of these is the sheer amount of fun Durkin has with the thin line between memory and reality, the gap between which is jumped with little more than a cleverly deployed cut or scene change. Durkin’s effective manipulation of the audience keeps the film moving at a quick clip, despite its languid pacing and mood.

The scenes set at Patrick’s compound are a precise, unflinching depiction of a cult’s brainwashing process. Durkin avoids the ideals and functions of the cult in favor of seeing their increasingly reprehensible actions without the smoke



Martha Marcy May Marlene
Sean Durkin

Genre: Drama
Runtime: 101 minutes
For those who like: Winter’s Bone, Red State
Grade: A-



Photo courtesy of the Associated Press, Fox Searchlight and Jody Lee Lipes
Elizabeth Olsen, left, and Sarah Paulson are shown in a scene from “Martha Marcy May Marlene.”

screen of belief that Martha (renamed Marcy May within the compound’s walls) is blinded by. The modern-day scenes carry their own powerful punch, with Martha’s increasingly agitated mental state keeping us both sympathetic to and a little weary of the character, much as her own family is. As Martha’s sister, Sarah Paulson falls a bit on the unlikeable side at times, but Paulson’s always struggled to be a warm presence on film, and she performs spectacularly when asked.

Even so, she’s eclipsed by Elizabeth Olsen, who gives one of the year’s best performances. Martha is a deeply disturbed character throughout, and yet Olsen keeps us firmly on her side, unflinching in her depiction of a refugee with no real place in the world, selling Mar-

tha’s terror every time she hears a bump in the night and frustration at the world she’s returned to. It’s a revelatory performance from a bold new artistic voice, and it would be a crime to see Olsen excluded from this year’s Oscar nominees.

If there’s one bone to pick with “Martha Marcy May Marlene,” it’s the ending, which is as abrupt as any final shot you’ve ever seen (think “The Sopranos,” but more frustrating). The finale lacks thematic significance and seems to be ambiguous simply for art-house cred. But when the biggest complaint about a film is wanting to see more of it, it’s clear that you’re working with a film worth paying attention to. “Martha Marcy May Marlene” is a film that deserves all the attention it can get in the crowded film slate of Oscar season.

By Alex Williams
Daily Texan Staff

A year ago, Elizabeth Olsen was most recognizable for her last name, one she shares with older sisters Mary-Kate and Ashley. Fortunately, Elizabeth skipped the child star route and is now an infinitely better actress than either of her older sisters, something that’s abundantly clear in her stunning performance in Sean Durkin’s “Martha Marcy May Marlene.” Olsen stars as Martha, who’s recently escaped from a horrific cult and takes refuge with her sister, played by Sarah Paulson. Oscar buzz has been surrounding Olsen ever since her Sundance debut, and “Martha Marcy May Marlene” is more than deserving of all the attention it will hopefully get.

The Daily Texan participated in a conference call interview with Olsen earlier this fall.

DT: Did you study any other performances to influence this role?
Elizabeth Olsen: No, not for the acting. I did, coincidentally, as research, someone told me, ‘You’re in a movie about a cult, have you seen Jane Campion’s ‘Holy Smoke?’ Kate Winslet is in a cult and Harvey Keitel comes in and tries to help her out of her brainwashed mindset and basically, I saw the movie because I was curious. It had nothing to do with research for a film. There are lots of vulnerable and difficult scenes that Kate Winslet was really brave to do, so by watching that film, I felt confident to be put in situations that were physically and emotionally vulnerable. Watching that movie also gave me an understanding of how nudity could be used in a way to further tell a story as opposed to being gratuitous or sensationalized, and her performance in that is really balls-to-the-wall, so I was very happy to have

seen that before working, because it gave me a confidence. I didn’t base Martha off of anyone real, whether in my life or in fiction. It was all on the page and trying to realize what Sean wrote down.

DT: Was it difficult to show such a multi-faceted character?
EO: It was lucky. I feel lucky that I was able to essentially make two different movies. I was the only person besides the crew who was able to be on both locations, and it really did feel like making two different movies because you have two different

“
There are so many things hidden in frame ... that you won’t be able to notice on a first watch. That’s how clever it is, and intelligent it is, and beautiful it is to watch.
”

— Elizabeth Olson, Actress

journeys. I felt lucky that I got to be able to explore someone with a positive life of growth, which I would say would be at the cult but ends up not turning out so great, but I was trying to figure out where there was hope in that. And then the struggle in the lake house is a fully different story. I really enjoyed being challenged in that way.

DT: What was it like working with John Hawkes?
EO: There are so many things. First off, he’s really funny, and caring and kind, and

he never tried to make me feel uncomfortable or any of those things. He was the total opposite. We always checked in with each other to make sure that we’re doing okay, we’d always be rehearsing, and we worked very delicately and specifically. What I learned from him is how much you can do, and also the same with Sarah [Paulson], is how much an actor can do for you when it’s your coverage and they’re not even on-screen. John would think of ways of surprising me when it was my coverage. I didn’t realize that there was something that someone can do to help you with your performance, I learned that from him. I always tried to be able to do something like that for him, but I thought it would just be distracting. He was so supportive off-camera and I’m so thankful for that. I learned so much from him because of that.

DT: How did you feel when you saw the film for the first time?
EO: Sundance [where the film premiered] was very confusing for me. It was the first time I saw myself on screen, and it was like a moving photo album. I saw a scene and thought about that day on set. It was only like two and a half months after filming. They edited it really quickly. But when I got to see it in Cannes, that was my first experience being able to distance myself from it, and it was so interesting to watch; because I truly believe that everyone should see this movie more than once, because it is so smart and there are so many things hidden in frame, specifically lines that all come together that you won’t be able to notice on a first watch. That’s how clever it is, and intelligent it is, and beautiful it is to watch. I had such a great time watching it. I had a hard time, I’m in every frame of the movie so that was difficult to watch. I don’t really enjoy watching myself for that long.

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Julia Bunch | Daily Texan Staff

Danika Boyle, a UT alumnus, founded and owns Petite Pêche and Co., a company that takes people on culinary tours of France and Italy. Boyle created her business for those looking to have a deeper connection when traveling to Paris.

UT alumnus finds calling in France

By Sarah-Grace Sweeney
Daily Texan Staff

The need to have a post-college plan is increasing lately for students. There is pressure to get out of college as quickly as possible and work that nine-to-five job as quickly as possible. But that was never Danika Boyle.

Boyle is the creator of luxury travel company Petit Pêche & Co., where she takes people on intimate culinary tours of France and Italy. But she also collaborates with her husband to host old, European-style musical salons. She is passionate about cooking and occasionally holds private cooking classes. Sometimes, she blogs for the Huffington Post about French cuisine.

"A lot of people feel like their work is their life, and the French are great at knowing that it's really not," Boyle said. "That's why no one else asks you in the rest of the world, 'What

do you do?' What do you do outside of how you make a living, that's what's most relevant."

There was no checklist or direct path that led Boyle to where she is today. Instead she has focused her energy on always having a new project centered on the skill she feels is her most valuable: connecting people using food and art.

"There's an idea that service is déclassé or something," Boyle said. "But I'm the opposite. I think you can comfort people and comfort their deeper hungers with a meal and with hospitality more than anything."

Boyle graduated from UT in 2001 with a degree in Communication Studies. She spent a semester of her junior year at the Paris-Sorbonne University studying French, international business and French philosophy.

"Nothing was going to stop me [from traveling]," Boyle said. "And I definitely freaked out the night before

I left. I was so petrified. And I got on the plane and as soon as I got there, I was like 'What was I so afraid of?'"

And so Boyle's love affair with Paris began.

"I immediately felt at home with the way people responded to each other [there]. They were very sensitive," Boyle said. "There's obviously the fact that everyone sits in cafes all day long and drinks coffee. Though I learned very quickly that there's no such thing as a free refill during my first study session."

Charlotte Warren has traveled with Boyle on one of her tours and had similar experiences, becoming wrapped up in the French culture.

"Once you get out into the French countryside and start experiencing the true culture and the closeness of the people, it's just an enriching experience," Warren said. "And Danika makes every day a new adventure. And then in the evenings when she

cooks, the food is just outstanding."

Boyle lived in New York City for a few years after college, but returned to Austin to regroup. She successfully sold real estate for a while and taught cooking classes for a year, but looked at her life and at 30 years old, felt like it had ended.

Boyle shrugged her shoulders, realizing the cliché when she said she could feel "Paris calling." She saw a photo of the Eiffel Tower in a magazine, considered her love of the city and the culinary arts and her next steps were natural, she said. She went to work creating her business.

Today she travels with small groups to areas of France during their best seasons. They travel to Bordeaux for wine season or Provence in May for the cherries. Boyle offers up her insider knowledge of the area, cooks meals during

FRANCE continues on PAGE 11

MOVIE REVIEW A VERY HAROLD AND KUMAR 3D CHRISTMAS

Stoner Christmas parody trades wit for absurdity

By Alex Williams
Daily Texan Staff

The "Harold and Kumar" franchise has long been a reliable source for racially charged political humor sprinkled in among sharper-than-expected stoner satire. The long wait between sequel "Harold and Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay" and the 3D third installment has made the characters grow up a little, while staying as immature as possible and significantly less socially relevant.

"A Very Harold and Kumar 3D Christmas" finds its heroes estranged: Harold (John Cho) is married and shooting for a kid, while Kumar (Kal Penn) has turned from slacker med student to just plain slacker, with a coarse beard to boot. When Kumar receives a package addressed to Harold, he delivers it to his friend's swanky new home where mishaps predictably ensue that send the pair into New York City searching for the perfect Christmas tree on December 24.

While "Guantanamo Bay" was often a strong follow-up to the original film, its stakes got so preposterously high that the equally elevated heroes seemed ill-equipped to deal with the illegal immigration, Cyclops monsters and Homeland Security agents the film threw at them. "3D Christmas" keeps the stakes relatively low, and instead ups the absurdity. Throughout the film, Harold and Kumar contend with a drug-addled infant, Russian mobsters and a gravely wounded Santa

Claus. Unfortunately, much of what made the first two films so memorable was their ability to take square aim at politics and race, something mostly missing from the third installment. While Harold's father-in-law (Danny Trejo) makes a few Korean jokes, that's more or less the end of it, and the film trades in its biting social commentary for a few dull criticisms of religion.

Even so, "3D Christmas" is a worthy sequel, making the most of the 3D it was shot in. The 3D here is pure gimmick, filled with smoke rings and stop-motion sex organs and even an impressive, lovingly rendered beer pong shot. Director Todd Strauss-Schulson is completely shameless in using the medium in as many juvenile and hilarious ways as possible. Perhaps the best 3D sequence is an elaborate dance number fueled by franchise staple Neil Patrick Harris. It's an engaging sequence that uses the added dimension for depth of field and impressive imagery instead of gimmicky punch lines. Harris is as good a sport as ever, and manages to be even more outrageous here than he was in the second film — no small feat, as his cameo there had Harris branding a prostitute before being shot to death in Texas.

Even if the jokes may not be as pointed, the gentler sense of humor works well in telling the

KUMAR continues on PAGE 11



A Very Harold and Kumar 3D Christmas Todd Strauss-Schulson

Genre: Comedy
Runtime: 90 minutes
For those who like: Harold Kumar Go to White Castle, Pineapple Express
Grade: B+

MOVIE REVIEW TOWER HEIST

'Tower Heist' uses cast chemistry to entertain

By Alex Williams
Daily Texan Staff

Brett Ratner's name often draws scoffs among filmgoers, as the director tends to ping-pong between lukewarm comedies ("The Family Man") and overwrought thrillers ("After the Sunset"), not to mention single-handedly torpedoing the original "X-Men" trilogy with his third installment. However, Ratner seems to have found his niche with "Tower Heist," a slick, twisty and genuinely entertaining heist film that's easily his finest to date.

Taking timely aim at the financial elite, "Tower Heist" stars Ben Stiller, Casey Affleck and Michael Peña as employees at the Tower, a New York skyscraper that houses the richest of the rich, including Arthur Shaw (Alan Alda). When Shaw is arrested and the staff, who have invested their pensions with him, learn their money is gone, building manager Josh Kovacs (Stiller) flies into a blind rage that gets him and his friends fired. Hungry for revenge, they enlist ousted tenant Fitzhugh (Matthew Broderick) and local thug Slide (Eddie Murphy) to pull off a high-stakes robbery from Shaw's penthouse apartment.

Like numerous heist films before it, "Tower Heist" relies strongly on the chemistry of its cast, and the Stiller-led ensemble doesn't disappoint. Stiller is more likeable here than he's been in years, and his straight-laced team leader makes for a cheer-worthy hero, especially when he proves to be unexpectedly sharp and capable under extreme duress. Eddie Murphy, freed from the layers of make up and morality that prevailed during many of his recent "contributions" to cinema, veers



David Lee | Associated Press

Ben Stiller, left, and Eddie Murphy are shown in a scene from "Tower Heist."



Tower Heist Brett Ratner

Genre: Comedy
Runtime: 105
For those who like: Ocean's Eleven, Rush Hour

Grade: B

between energetically charming and confident and occasionally harsh and even a bit scary — definitely Murphy's best performance since 2006's "Dreamgirls." The supporting cast, rounded out by Affleck, an affably defeated Broderick, Peña and "Precious" featuring a hilarious Jamaican accent — is grounded thanks to a genuinely touching performance from Stephen McKinley Henderson as Lester, an elderly doorman who loses his life savings to Shaw's scheme.

Thanks to the vibrant energy among the cast and strong pac-

ing from Ratner, "Tower Heist" moves fairly quickly, spending just enough time establishing characters and the geography of the Tower before putting them to the task of breaking into their former workplace. Murphy barely appears in the film for the first 40 minutes, but his entrance, as he teaches his co-conspirators how to steal, is hugely entertaining. The film doesn't take too long before leading into its climactic heist, and Ratner finds a way to add some wrinkles to the plot, some

HEIST continues on PAGE 11

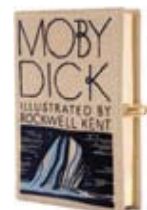
POPindex

BY ALEKSANDER CHAN

James Drake's time-lapse video of the Earth at night. It's a striking reminder of our planet's beauty.



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Zoey Deschanel and Ben Gibbard are splitting up. They'll both probably write a sad indie song about it.



No NBA games until Nov. 30. At the earliest. We blame Tony Parker.



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